'The Freedom'

A Defector Tells His Story

By Michael Grieg

In a modestly furnished hotel room near China-town, Tung Chi-ping, a former Communist Chinese official, spoke yesterday about the life of a defector.

'Don't mention the name of the hotel, please," said

the darkly handsome, intense young man who, less than a year ago, was assigned to a Communist diplomatic mission in Africa.

Tung's decision to defect set a speed record. He esfrom the Chinese embassy Usumbura, in the capital of: Burundi, exactly 20 hours and 50 minutes "They still say I was kidnaped by the Americans," Tung said, "and they've spent a lot of money, mobilized a lot of people; trying to get me back.

"I left my family and friends in Shanghai—and my girl friend, too." Tung said.

'DRAWBACKS'

"Just last year this month, I was in Ihina. Now I'm on the other side of the world, and I miss my country-in spite of all the drawbacks-high level of life here-and very much."

dentified city, where "an American magazine is pay- can life: "People hero don't ing my expenses-nothing take thing seriously enough. fancy, though." Tung has been studying international nity to observe "the other relations and writing a book side of the world" on May 25, about his experiences. 🕦

Francisco, anti-Communist ATTACHE WHO SPOKE Chinese Americans invite the FLUENT French. 25-year-old defector "to study their free way of life."

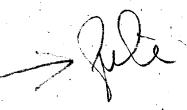


TUNG CHI-PING "The other side"

"The main difference is the the freedom. Even your Ne-Now a student in an uni-groes live better than some Communist officials."

His one criticism of Ameri-

Tung first got the opportubout his experiences. 1964, when he went to B.U-Occasionally, as in San RUNDI AS A CULTURAL



Less than a day later, wearing slippers, a shirt and trousers, he went t breakfast with his former colleagues.

"I forgot to put my underwear on," he recalled, "but I did take the only money I had, a five-pound note, worth

"I finished breakfast early, and they thought I was going back to the hotel. Instead, I jumped into a taxi and went to the American embassy."

The carge d'affaires there, Tung said, looked over the defector and told him: "Many try and many are fakes."

"I'm not joking," the young defector answered, quietly. "I'm risking my life."

HELPED

The Communist hue and cry that he had been kidnaped helped to convince the embadsy, he said.

There ould be many more defectors, Tung said, if they had the chance.

"When the Communists send diplomatic personnel out of the country, only the ambassador and high officials are allowed t take their wives. And even then, their children remain behind.

"It's very rare that sinle persons like me are sent out. I can tell you that if there weren't so man6 police in CANTON, THE HOPELESS YOUNG PEOPLE IN THAT SOUTHERN CITY WOULD ALL BE FLOCKING T Hong Kong."